

## CLAIMS

- 5        1. Use of the Annexin V protein or an N-terminal fragment of Annexin V, optionally in the form of a salt, in the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition to prevent atherothrombosis and/or plaque rupture.
- 10       2. The use according to claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises an effective amount of the Annexin V protein or N-terminal fragment of Annexin V, optionally in combination with a carrier and additives.
- 15       3. The use according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the effective amount of the Annexin V in the pharmaceutical composition is determined from a diagnostic status analysis of the Annexin V-endothelium binding.
- 20       4. A method of treating a subject at risk of atherothrombosis and/or plaque rupture, comprising administering to said subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of Annexin V or N-terminal fragment of Annexin V or its corresponding salt.
- 25       5. A method according to claim 4 where the subject at risk is a systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) patient.
- 30       6. A purified subfraction of pooled immunoglobulins with the capacity to inhibit antibodies binding to Annexin V.
7. A purified subfraction of pooled immunoglobulins with the capacity to promote binding of Annexin V to endothelium.
8. Use of the purified subfraction according to claim 6 or 7 or use of a commercially available pooled immunoglobulin preparation in the

manufacturing of a medicament to prevent atherothrombosis and/or plaque rupture.

9. The purified subfraction according to claim 6 or 7 for use in medicine. .

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10. A method of treating a subject at risk of arthothrombosis and/or plaque rupture, comprising administering to said subject a pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of pooled immunoglobulins or a purified subfraction of pooled immunoglobulins.

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11. A method according to claim 10 where the subject at risk is a systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) patient.